

MEMORANDUM

19 July 1999

TO: Lompoc Interagency Work Group Members (See Attached Distribution List)

SUBJECT: MEETING SUMMARY – JUNE 18, 1999

Members present: Advocates for a Clean Environment - Lauren Sullivan; Air Resources Board - Lynn Baker; City of Lompoc - Stacy Lawson; Department of Health Services - Christine Arnesen, Martha Harnly, Rick Kreutzer, Sharon Seidel; Department of Pesticide Regulation - Madeline Brattesani, Paul Gosselin, Doug Okumura, John Ross, Jay Schreider, Randy Segawa; Lompoc Growers - Richard Quandt; Lompoc Residents - Joyce Howerton, Dave Pierce; Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment - Richard Ames, Michael DiBartolomeis, Joy Wisniewski; Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office - Joe Karl; Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District - Duane Sikorski; Santa Barbara County Health Services - Elliot Schulman; Senator O'Connell's Office - Carla Frisk; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Headquarters - Jake Mackenzie (Facilitator, Lompoc Interagency Work Group); U.S. EPA, Region IX - Karen Heisler; Volunteers for a Healthy Valley - George Rauh.

Members absent: Assembly Member Maldonado's Office - Julia King; Celite Corporation - Chris Pauley; City of Lompoc - Dick DeWees; Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment - Anna Fan; Santa Barbara County Supervisor Gray's Office - Susan Warnstrom; Santa Barbara County Supervisor Marshall's Office - John Buttny; UC Extension Agricultural Engineer - Bill Steinke; U.S. EPA, Region IX - Ray Chavira; Volunteer - Robert Holtzer.

Topic #1: Introductions The Lompoc Interagency Work Group (LIWG) members and others present introduced themselves.

Topic #2: Approve meeting summary The LIWG approved the summary of the April 22 19, 1999 meeting with no changes.

Topic #3: Review agenda The LIWG reviewed the agenda and decided to postpone the "Analysis of Weather Patterns" report to the next meeting in Sacramento. Several handouts were noted for the record; they had been mailed to LIWG members prior to this meeting (Handouts #1 - 6).

Topic #4: Report on legislative activities with funding requests

Main Points: The legislature passed the budget and has sent it to Governor Davis for his approval. This budget contained a pesticide component of \$345,000. This is \$140,000 less than the amount the LIWG identified to conduct the comprehensive activities the LIWG prioritized (health, pesticides, pollen and meteorology).

Discussion/Decisions: The LIWG briefly discussed how to address the \$140,000 shortfall, particularly for the pesticide air monitoring. It considered the legislature, U.S. EPA funds, changing Phase Two activities, and sources of local funding.

Next steps: At the September meeting of the LIWG, an update on the status of funding will be provided.

Topic #5: Report on the status of the recommendations on Key Issue #1 [Does sickness occur in the community? If so, what kind(s) and at what rate(s)? Are illness rates higher than expected?]

Main Points: Elliot Schulman summarized the slow, but steady progress of these activities. They are gathering data from a broader range of data bases, e.g., hospital discharge, ambulatory data from the hospital, clinic, and regional clinic. They plan to look at the top 100 diagnoses and geocode this information over the next two months. He attended the Lompoc Community Health Council and all members agreed to provide ambulatory data during monitoring. He distributed the Community Health Status Report that his office publishes (Handout #7). They will move into Phase Two health study if evidence of increased disease or illness, once exposure data are available.

Discussion/Decisions: The LIWG asked Elliot several questions about what comparisons (Lompoc vs. other cities; illness patterns) were being done. The LIWG wanted to know the impact of not receiving the \$25,000 from the legislature would have. He indicated that he can redirect tasks, but without money he will not be able to purchase the anticipated Geographical Information System time. No money exists for the case control study. The LIWG requested that Elliot attend the next TAG meeting to better coordinate monitoring activities with his health group who will be using the exposure data. The LIWG also requested that Richard Ames/OEHHA look into the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority (SBRHA) data and discussed how to fund that activity. Michael DiBartolomeis indicated that he needed an estimate of resources and time which they will discuss at the next health subgroup meeting.

Richard Ames reported that the analysis of additional data in 1991-94 hospital discharge data will be available in hard copy and on the web soon. The LIWG requested that OEHHA update hospital discharge data beyond 1994. OEHHA has 1995-97 data. The LIWG offered to request the informal, verbal release of the 1995-97 data and its analysis.

Next steps: Elliot will present the health subgroup's geocoded data at the next LIWG meeting in September. He will attend the next TAG meeting. Michael will get back to the LIWG about funding the analysis of SBRHA data at its next meeting. OEHHA will let the LIWG know what it may do to facilitate the informal, verbal release of the 1995-97 hospital discharge data and its analysis.

Topic #6: Report on the status of the recommendations on Key Issue #3 [What other environmental hazards and factors exist in Lompoc?]

Main Points: (1) Radon—Stacy Lawson gave a presentation on radon activities. This subgroup recommended in March 1998 to the LIWG to look at radon levels in Lompoc. The LIWG endorsed that recommendation. A background survey showed that Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties tend to have above normal radon concentrations. The City of Lompoc and the U.S. EPA offered 50 free test kits to residents; 25 were returned and a few exceeded the federal level of concern (4 picoCuries/liter). They mapped the results and, although they found wide variation in data, this information did answer the question whether levels of concern were present (generally in the area of town south of Ocean, alluvial fan). The next step was to study a focus area of Lompoc: 23 more kits were given to city-affiliated people in the southern part of town. Twenty kits were returned; 55% (11 homes) had levels of radon that exceeded the 4 picoCurie/liter federal level, 2 to 3 kits had greater than 10 picoCurie/liter. The City then contacted the state radon program manager and state geologist to confirm that radon does exist in this area (Lompoc to Pt. Conception). The City offered workshops to provide information and education regarding radon; they provided information to the media and offered more radon test kit coupons. Please

note that using a radon test kit is voluntary and results are confidential. **(2) Pollen**—Lynn Baker updated the LIWG on this activity. It has been put off until the funds (\$21,000) are available. **(3) Crystalline silica**—This monitoring has been postponed until the fall, so that this pilot study will take place when both southerly and westerly winds occur (fall). May occur during the time when fumigant monitoring is taking place. The Toxic Air Contaminant source directed monitoring will occur in the next few years.

Discussion/Decisions: The LIWG asked whether radon occurs where they mine diatomaceous earth (two areas that are mined are not located in alluvial fan; have not found radon levels of concern in buildings from diatomaceous earth). The LIWG asked about health effects of radon, immune system. Radon exposure can lead to increase in lung cancer. The LIWG discussed need for further monitoring, data quality objectives, data quality. The LIWG requested that the subgroup discuss what next steps to take regarding radon. The LIWG questioned if synergistic effects occur with radon and silica and mentioned that the LIWG may want to comparatively rank risks. The LIWG also wanted to know more about Vandenberg Air Force Base/hydrazine exposure.

Next steps: At the September meeting, this subgroup needs to bring back to the LIWG a recommendation about what next steps to take regarding radon and address concern with validity of data, funding sources for pollen and meteorology activities, assessing risk comparatively (form new subgroup? Combine existing ones to discuss?), and provide a report on hydrazine status.

TOPIC #7: Report on the status of the recommendations on Key Issue #2 [Key Issue #2: Are Lompoc residents exposed to pesticides in air? If so, which pesticides, and in what amounts? Do those levels exceed human health standards?]

Screening levels - methodology and steps

Main Points: Jay Schreider and John Ross summarized the methodology and steps DPR used to develop screening levels for Phase I pesticide air monitoring (handouts #2, 3 and 8). These levels were not intended to be risk assessments due to limited time and resources. Such an intensive risk assessment was neither feasible nor appropriate. However, these levels do put in context sampling results and provide initial information about whether there may be an immediate acute health hazard. Paul Gosselin pointed out that for air levels, nothing analogous exists to levels for residues in produce or maximum contaminant levels in drinking water that are reference ready and have gone through some state or federal review. These toxicology studies are based on oral exposure, not the major route of exposure. So, DPR used the best professional judgement approach, assuming valid and accurate data. Paul Gosselin described that for Phase Two/pesticide air monitoring DPR would take this work and refine the methodology with LIWG toxicologists to develop screening values.

Discussion/Decisions: The LIWG identified a need to continue discussions on methodology to develop screening levels and present different values, when issues of difference arise (e.g., cholinesterase inhibition endpoint). The LIWG suggested expressing the range of uncertainty. The LIWG requested improving collaboration between the toxicology group and the TAG.

Next steps: Paul Gosselin agreed to reconvene the LIWG toxicology group, open to any interested member) and start collaboration on Phase Two/screening levels and to revisit the numbers and tie them to a narrative that acknowledges the uncertainty. This group will go back over general method for numbers, general steps for data sources, specifics on what's best data sources, and preparing screening levels for Phase Two.

Status of monitoring activities/fumigants and Phase Two

Main Points: Randy Segawa told the LIWG that fumigant monitoring is scheduled for fall 1999 and

Phase Two for spring or summer 2000. The TAG has been working with several labs to see which one can meet the requirements for fumigant monitoring. All labs have limitations and are not able to meet specifications completely. He asked the LIWG to discuss whether to go ahead with the Department of Health Services lab (they come close to detection limits, but don't meet targets). For Phase Two, the TAG has reviewed the data quality objectives, provided comments and Randy has made changes.

Discussion/Decisions: The LIWG discussed private labs, contract process, funding the shortfall for pesticide air monitoring (e.g., local government sources). The LIWG requested that the LIWG meet specifically, and soon, to discuss this issue further.

Next steps: TAG meets to discuss how fast we pursue various option with private, public labs and reports to the LIWG at its next meeting on July 8 (conference call) where this will be the main topic. The LIWG needs to revisit the funding question for pesticides and other unfunded projects.

Topic #8: Next meeting date, time, location, and agenda: The LIWG plans to meet next on Thursday, July 8, by conference call from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00p.m. to discuss lab issues about pesticide air monitoring. At that meeting, the LIWG will set its next meeting date and time (in Sacramento) to discuss other agenda items. See agenda for details.

Please contact me, or Jake Mackenzie at (707) 584-1195, if you have questions about this meeting summary.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

cc: Paul Gosselin, DPR
Doug Okumura, DPR
John Sanders, DPR

Handouts distributed at the April 22, 1999, meeting. Hard copies will be mailed only to those members not in attendance, or those requesting hard copies.

1. Letter to Jim Wells/DPR from Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association regarding LIWG (dated 4/5/99).
2. Draft memo from Paul Gosselin /DPR to LIWG regarding Lompoc exposure data (dated 1/12/99).
3. Draft mini-memo from Jay Schreider & John Ross/DPR to Paul Gosselin regarding toxicity endpoints for pesticides to be monitored in Lompoc (dated 5/17/99).
4. DPR's Update on Lompoc (revised June 1999).
5. Letter to the Honorable Byron Sher/Senate budget & Fiscal Review from Richard Quandt/Grower-Shipper Vegetable Association (dated 5/1/7/99).
6. Letter to the Honorable Jack O'Connell/Senate from Steve Jordan/Jordan Brothers' Ranch regarding funding (dated 5/20/99).
7. Community Health Status Report. 1999. Santa Barbara County Public Health Department. Contact Dr. Schulman at (805) 681-5105 for a copy.
8. Copy of overhead regarding screening levels.

Member Distribution List:

Advocates for a Clean Environment/Lauren Sullivan
Air Resources Board/Lynn Baker
Assembly Member Maldonado's Office/Melanie Bedwell, Julia King
Celite Corporation/Chris Pauley
City of Lompoc/Dick DeWees, Stacy Lawson
Department of Health Services/Christine Arnesen, Martha Harnly, Rick Kreutzer, Sharon Seidel
Department of Pesticide Regulation/Madeline Brattesani, John Ross, Jay Schreider, Randy Segawa
Lompoc Growers/Richard Quandt
Lompoc Resident/Joyce Howerton, Dave Pierce
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment/Richard Ames, Michael DiBartolomeis, Anna Fan, Joy Wisniewski
Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office/Joe Karl
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District/Duane Sikorski
Santa Barbara County Health Care Services/Elliot Schulman
Santa Barbara County Supervisor Gray's Office/Susan Warnstrom
Santa Barbara County Supervisor Marshall's Office/John Buttny
Senator O'Connell's Office/Carla Frisk
UC Extension Agricultural Engineer/Bill Steinke
U.S. EPA, Headquarters/Jake Mackenzie
U.S. EPA, Region IX/Ray Chavira, Karen Heisler
Volunteer/Robert Holtzer (formerly with Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment as a Medical Officer)
Volunteers for a Healthy Valley/George Rauh